

**REMARKS**

In view of the above amendments and arguments herein, Applicants believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1 - 13 are currently pending. In the present Response, Applicants cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend independent claim 1 in part to include the elements of cancelled claim 8. No new matter is introduced. Support may be found in Applicants' specification, for example, at page 12, line 22 through page 14, line 2 and at page 31, lines 3 - 11.

**II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1 and 7 - 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Patent Publication No. 2003-018850 to Toshiyuki et al. ("Toshiyuki"). Claims 2 - 6, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshiyuki in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,502 to Nishio et al. ("Nishio"). Applicants cancel claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer, and submit therefore that the rejection as to claim 8 is moot. Applicants amend claim 1 to further define the nature of their invention, and respectfully traverse the rejections as to claims 1 - 7 and 9 - 11.

In amended independent claim 1, Applicants claim:

**1. A self-ballasted fluorescent lamp comprising:**

a fluorescent lamp;

a lighting circuit having a one-package switch, inductors, and capacitors, said one-package switch containing in a single package a pair of field effect transistors that serve as inverter switches for driving the fluorescent lamp, said field effect transistors being complementary; and

a circuit board having a first face facing away from said fluorescent lamp and a second face facing towards said fluorescent lamp, said first face having at least both a smoothing capacitor and a current-limiting inductor, which have relatively large dimensions, mounted thereon; wherein:

said one-package switch is a generally rectangular surface mounting device with a length and width respectively not exceeding 6 mm and provided with terminals extending from two opposing sides thereof; and

said one-package switch is surface mounted on either said first face or said second face of said circuit board through said terminals,

wherein paired drain terminals for each complementary field effect transistor are arranged side-by-side and project from one side of the package, and a gate terminal and source terminal for each complementary field effect transistor are arranged side by side and project from an opposing side of the package.

(Emphasis added).

Toshiyuki discloses a self-ballasted fluorescent lamp including a fluorescent lamp 11, lighting circuit 16 and circuit board 24 (see, e.g., FIGs. 1 - 1 of Toshiyuki). The lighting circuit 16 has a one-package switch 74, 77, inductors L1 - L3, and capacitors C1 - C4, and one-package switch 74, 77 includes an N-type and a P-type field effect transistor.

However, and in sharp contrast to Applicants' invention as claimed in amended independent claim 1, Toshiyuki fails to teach or disclose a single package comprising a pair of complementary field effect transistors in which paired drain terminals for each complementary field effect transistor are arranged side-by-side and project from one side of the package, and a gate terminal and source terminal for each complementary field effect transistor are arranged side by side and project from an opposing side of the package. Rather, as illustrated for example in FIGs. 5 and 6 of Toshiyuki, only a single drain terminal is provided for each transistor device in the one-package switch 74, 77 of Toshiyuki. In addition, unlike Applicants' claimed device, Toshiyuki fails to disclose a single package including a gate terminal and source terminal individually provided for each complementary field effect transistor. Rather, the package switch 74, 77 of Toshiyuki provides only one gate terminal and one source terminal that are shared by each of the transistors.

By providing paired drain terminals for each transistor, as well as individual gate and source terminals for each transistor, Applicants' package increases the number of terminals provided (i.e., 8 terminals) by a factor of 2 over the package switch 74, 77 of Toshiyuki (4 terminals). Significantly, Applicants' claimed package provides substantially increased terminal area (as well as associated land and solder connection area on the circuit board) than the package switch 74, 77, enabling improved heat dissipation for the device (see, e.g., page 31, lines 3 - 11 of Applicants' specification). Accordingly, for at least the above-argued reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 1 is not obvious in view of Toshiyuki, and stands in condition for allowance.

Claims 2- 6 and 9 - 13 each depend from one of allowable independent claims 1 and 10. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2- 6 and 9 - 13 are also allowable.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1 - 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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